

FRS NEWSLETTER

Number 16- December 1997

Dear FRS-Holland Friend!

Time flies by. This is the 3rd and final 1997 edition of the FRS Newsletter but of course we will continue in 1998. The formula for this small but informative newsheet seems to work very well judging the response we received so far. May I use this opportunity to wish all of you a very Merry X-Mas and a happy healthy and wonderful 1998!!

FRS NEWSCORNER

FRS-HOLLAND ACTIVITIES/ NEWS

When taking a look at the FRSH broadcasts you may conclude that 1997 wasn't FRS-Holland's most active year. During the first 5 months not one single FRS broadcast was to be heard. June and July saw successful tests to New Zealand making our engineer Speed, Bobby Speed, mad with joy. August was full of activity: August 10th saw a 60 min. test, a 5 hour 3rd Sunday broadcast to commemorate the M.O.A.'s 30th birthday was aired on 6245 August 17th (with much success and a great signal) and August 30th/31st a nighttime broadcast took place on 3910. No doubt listener's response on 48 metres is far better than on 76 metres. Although some people are hoping the 76 mb will overshadow 48 metres, we know better....

October 19th FRS-Holland celebrated its 17th birthday with broadcasts on 6245, 6268 & 5805. The latter frequency was occupied for 24 hours until the early Sun evening. Reception on both channels was very satisfactory, 5805 was even easily audible at 19.00 CEST Sunday evenings! Pxs on 6245 were aired between 08.00-12.00 UTC with a power of approx. 125 watts. The 6268 outlet was one hour ahead of 6245 and also on this frequency reception was loud. A total of 60 letters were received from 10 different countries. These letters will be handled in our next broadcast. We must thanks the JRR OP who kindly left 6245

clear for FRSH and was to be heard on 6222. That is a very positive attitude.

With some disappointment I have to tell you there won't be a X-Mas broadcast this year. Due to a few reasons, it was (is) very difficult to organize a broadcast. It's the second time in FRS-Holland's history a X-Mas broadcast has to be cancelled. But there's hope... We are planning broadcasts in the early part of 1998, expect two FRS trms in the first three months of the New Year. At this moment we are looking for two new FRS presenters. Tony Mitchell who left FRS October 1996 was never replaced. At this moment our German presenter Stefan Kramer is inactive, we are seriously looking for a second German deejay making it possible he and Stefan can either take turns or doing pxs together within a 3rd Sunday programming. One experienced voice will be on FRSH early 1997 and we very much hope he will become part of the team. More plans include producing a set of German language jingles, new English jingles and the first in a series of FRS-Holland jingle CD's!!

And finally: FRS-Holland won the annual SRS competition which means that SRS readers voted us as the best SW free radio station in 1997! Thanks to all of you who voted us as their favourite!! For us it means that quality programming is highly valued by quite a number of SW free radio listeners. Second was Radio Nordsee and the third place was for Radio City.

You can reach us by Email via > peter.verbruggen@tip.nl < or

> frsh@pi.net <. The latter will be replaced by > frsh@wxs.nl <, however we must point out that > frsh@pi.net < will still be valid for the time being! Much info about FRS-Holland is to be read on our website (regularly being updated): >http://home.pi.net/~freak55/home.htm<. People who are stored in our SW addressbox will be kept up-to-date by means of Emails. Send an Email if you'd like your name to be added.

SW FREE RADIO SCENE

CONDITIONS/GENERAL

In this edition we cover the news of the period mid September-December 7th 1997 emphasizing on the developments in the past few weeks! Conditions haven't been that good on 48 metres lately. Still one must conclude they are not stable and changing from week to week. It is clear that 76 metres is less favourable during this time of the year. Many people are complaining about the Farmers from Holland spluttering too much making it almost impossible to broadcast above 6275 kHz. It's very striking that so far no serious action was taken by Dutch authorities! Just look at the facts: The Farmers are putting out lengthy broadcasts each Sunday and: they use a relatively high-powered transmitter. Normally Dutch authorities do not allow any station to be on with such power every week for so long....

☐ Long time SW listeners will remember the name of **BBMS**. In the evening of Sat Sept. 13th BBMS was heard on 3945 & 3951, most likely via the tx of Dutch Union Radio who was also active on afore-mentioned frequencies. Oct.19th saw BBMS on 3918. The station was also heard on 5830 a couple of times but this was not a great success. Intention of the station is to be on air on 76 metres every 3rd or 4th Sun of the month. Correct reports will be verified with a new colour QSL card and a info-sheet which is recently being updated. The address is 55D Chester Road, London N19 5DF, England.

☐ **RADIO BENELUX** tried it on the good old 7480 kHz Sun Nov. 16th. This makes BNL one of the very few SW pirates using 41 metres these days. In fact 41 metres is very good for medium distance propagation. The disadvantages are that the skip is longer and that not a great number of listeners is tuning in on 41 metres these days. The ideal solution is having a 41 mb tx in operation parallel with a 48 mb rig! Address BNL is (1).

☐ **RADIO BORDERHUNTER** was noted on 6255 Sun Oct. 5th. An new antenna was tested. Mod was poor.

☐ **RADIO BORN FREE** now has a brandnew email address: > iris_radio@compuserve.com <. The station identifying as Radio

Francais Sept. 27th on 6234.5 kHz turned out to be Radio B. Free..

☐ **RADIO BSA** is a new station, which was heard Oct. 26th on 6240 with quite a strong signal. Using the name *Radio Caballero*, the OP is active on the medium waves for already 20 years. A VFO-controlled 80W SW rig is in use. Address is: P.O.Box 578, NL-7900 AN Hoozeveer in the Netherlands.

☐ German **CITY FM** which used to be part of the 6275 Marabu programming a few times, was heard on 6260 Sun Sept. 28th. One of the deejays was former FRS jock Johnny Best also known as JB. Address is (1).

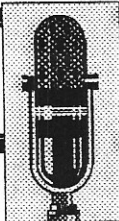
☐ Belgian **RADIO BRIGITTE** was heard on SW 6253 Sat/Sun Oct. 4th/5th. Brigitte has been rather inactive in the recent Summer. Nov. 30th Brigitte was noted on a rather strange frequency: 6474 kHz. Already November 14th 6474 was being mentioned as the new frequency Address is P.O.Box 50, B-2960 Brecht in Belgium.

☐ The **D.P.R.S.** has reopened September 1st, but only to forward reports to all Dutch medium wave pirates listed as unknown. The cost is 2 US-\$ or 2 IRCs for letters and 3 US-\$ or 3IRCS for tapes. Address: DPRS, 12 Dorman Road, Preston, PR2 6AS, UK..

☐ **RADIO DRILAND** from Germany is using a new 45W tx. The station was heard Sun Oct. 26th on 3900 kHz. Address is P.O.Box 1732, D-48578 Gronau, Germany.

☐ **RADIO EAST COAST HOLLAND** now has a new Email address which is > rnatgegl@inn.nl <. Snailmail address is Box 536, 7900 AR Hoozeveer in the Netherlands.

☐ After a few setbacks **EUROPEAN MUSIC RADIO** returned to the European SW airwaves on Sunday October 5th. The station was on air 24 hours on 6275 48 metres. Pxs commenced Saturday October 4th in the early evening hours and lasted till Sunday evening October 5th at approx. 18.00 UTC. To be heard was the station's 20th birthday programming in Dutch, French & English hosted by Jean-Claude Georges, Barry Stephens, guest-presenter Andy Walker & Peter Verbruggen. Barry Stephens presented a potted station's history. E.M.R. started in May 1977 and was Europe's most popular SW station till 1980 when the station was raided. E.M.R. continued with 5th Sun trms (via sister-station FRS-Holland) till June 1983 when station-OP Barry Stephens



decided to quit. The October pxs were partly a repeat of pxs already aired via Ozone Radio in April of this year. However, some fresh pxs were also recorded. The April broadcast was not a great success due to several reasons. No doubt Barry Stephens' wish the October broadcast would be heard by more listeners is fulfilled. Only 6 days after the broadcast just over 30 letters had arrived and early November more than 50 letters from countries like Finland, Italy, Sweden, German, the UK, Austria, France, Spain, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands and the USA. Four reports were from the USA indicating that conditions were much better than in April. Apart from that better transmitting equipment was used, modulation was very loud and EMR was well-heard in most corners of Western & Central Europe. November or December E.M.R. would be commencing trms via its own 100W transmitter on a frequency within the 41 mb. However, the latest news is that Barry Stephens has decided to continue on 48 metres in future. The reason is simple: 41 metres is hardly used nowadays and Barry fears that very few people will tune in to EMR's 41 mb frequency. The EMR rig is currently being modified and a 45 min. test on 48 metres over the X-Mas holiday season is very likely. But there's more news... EMR will be putting out 3 or 4 broadcasts in the January-April 1998 period. A 24 hour January broadcast is currently being prepared. Programme wise EMR is planning to add a German & Swedish Service as well as a DX-programme. Swedish, Spanish and Russian ID-jingles will be produced (French, Dutch, German & English IDs have already been produced) making EMR a station with a true European flavour putting out a mix of oldies, European hit music & radio news. The great news is that a 31 mb service will be introduced as an extra service to listeners in Northern, Eastern and Southern Europe. The return of E.M.R. is a positive development as there aren't that many serious programming stations nowadays. E.M.R. will be a station with an International flavour. Pxs won't be taking place every month, according to Barry Stephens most pxs will be aired in the October-May period when conditions are better/more reliable than the rest of the year. An fantastic info-package is waiting for you including a large colour QSL, large sticker and an info-sheet. Sticker and QSL contain the well-known E.M.R. logo in red & blue. It is to be hoped that listeners will respond in large numbers showing they are seriously willing to listen to stations such as E.M.R. Please enclose two IRC's/ two US dollars and write to: POBox 2727, 6049 ZG Herten in the Netherlands.

☐ The latest schedule from **RADIO 510 INT.** reads as follows:

Radio Jokebox	14.12.97	Radio Francis Drake	19.12.97
Radio 510 Internat'l	21.12.97	Radio Sparks	26.12.97
IMR	28.12.97		

Sunday October 12th **RADIO 510 INT.** featured a special 60 min. px in the memory of Princess Diana. The show was aired via the IRRS at 19.00 UTC on 3895 Khz. Listeners could participate by sending an email. Apart from the IRRS, the 1 hour show was also aired via WRMI, KIWI Radio and RWI.. Radio 510 informs that the 41 mb outlet has been added for free radio relays which now take place on:

- ☐ 41 metres Saturdays 12.00-14.00 UTC on 7120 kHz (repeats)
- ☐ Sundays 14.00-16.00 UTC also on 7120 kHz (new show & repeats).
- ☐ Sunday 20.00-21.00 UTC on 3985 kHz.
- ☐ Fridays 20.00-21.00 UTC on 3985 kHz.

An hour relay (incl. at least one repeat) costs 40 US-\$ or DM 70. Check out Radio 510's webpage at > <http://www.radio510.org> <. For more info contact Radio 510 via Email:

> scarlett@swissonline.ch <. Reports for a special QSL to P.O.Box 510, 4010 Basel, Switzerland.

☐ The **FARMERS FROM HOLLAND** can be heard almost every week on 6299 with lengthy trms which usually continue all Sunday. No doubt the station uses a high-powered tx, signal-quality is in all parts of Central and Western Europe very good. That in combination with the high level mod causes splatter on the adjacent channels. Splatter is noted some 20 kHz down and up the band. All broadcasts are carried out live and listeners can call the station during these broadcasts. The station's output mostly consists of Dutch polka and a bit of pop mx. You could characterize the station by mentioning the words strong-splatter-polka and echo. Sun Sept. 28th the tx's PA was blown up at approx. 11.40 UTC. Word has it that the station is planning to use a "new" Philips 10 kW tx. The station is looking for a suitable unit to be connected to the 10 kW PA unit. One can ask himself how long the station will

survive, aftermaking the 10 kW tx operational....Sun Nov. 30th and Dec. 7th a second outlet was operational: 6281 kHz. The tx which was used on this frequency was offered for sale. A final piece of news: Sunday October 26th the Farmers made it to New Zealand. The station was received on the usual frequency of 6299kHz between 17.41-19.00 UTC. Add is Box 108, 7200 AC Dalfsen in the Netherlands.

☐ Following a two months absence **RADIO FREE LONDON** returned to the air for a three day broadcast 5805kHz, starting on Thursday evening Oct. 30th and going through until Sunday evening Nov. 2nd.. Eversince RFL was heard each first & third Sunday on 5805 with the usual good signals. The station might be using a new and powerful 600W tx on some occasions in the future! This rig is owned by one of RFLs original engineers from the late 1960s. The station hopes to use this rig August 1998 when the station will be celebrating its 30th birthday. In November three of RFLs transmitters were developing mod trouble resulting in very low audio on 5805 on Sun Nov. 16th. That same Sunday afternoon RFLs AM site was found by a member of the public and the police were called in. It was almost the same as back in April, but things didn't get that bad. Lucky enough RFL did not have anything on the air as the aerial had come-down during the week, so no equipment was lost. RFL will be on the air for 9 days/24 hours throughout the Christmas week, starting on Saturday 20th December and going through until Sunday 28th on 5805kHz. Transmitter power *could* be as high as 600 watts depending on the engineer getting it working on time. Otherwise power could be 100W. Also plans are being made to broadcast on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Take notice of the new Email address >: RFLsw@usa.net < and check out the new website at :

> <http://193.63.162.100/gh/sw/RFL/htm> <. The "normal" address is P.O.Box 99, First Floor Suite, 253 Selhurst Road, London, SE25 6XT in the UK.

☐ The new **FREE RADIO INFO** website is now available, reports Achim Brueckner. The site contains info, QSL-pictures, sound files and a German language version of the latest edition of SRSnews. Here's the URL:> <http://members.aol.com/friffir> <.

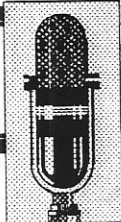
☐ Recently the OP of Dutch **FREE RADIO MAKER** had to appear in court. The station was forced to close down its FM service because a local legal FM station had given FRM's address to the Dutch authorities. Despite selling the FM rig and thinking all was safe, the stations was raided 4 weeks after the closedown! One 10 Watt TV-TX and an illegale CB-TX were confiscated plus the station's maps with the letters of listeners, maps with TX-schedules, all of the QSL-cards etc. During the courtcase they asked if they could get their maps back because letters of listeners are not illegal. The judge declared they were right and they will get (have got) all their maps with letters etc. back! The fine was set on 750 Guilders because it was the second time (first time in May 1995). It must now be clear why several DX-ers haven't received their verification. FRM hopes to get your letters back in December and then you will get your QSL-card. Address is Box 561, 4330 AN Middelburg in the Netherlands.

☐ **RADIO JOYSTICK**: here are the dates on which RJOY will be on the air in 1998 via R.510/IRRS -
 Sunday 25.01.98 (R.510/IRRS! R.Pandora?)
 Sunday 29.03.98 (R.510/IRRS! R.Pandora?)
 Sunday 31.05.97 (R.510/IRRS! R.Pandora?)

Website on the Internet: > chapri@aol.com <. Add is (1).

☐ **RADIO KORAK INT.** returned on SW after an absence for security reasons. The station was heard Sept. 13th not on the usual 3920 but on 3930 kHz. Nov.2nd RKI was once again on 3930 with a musical show. A wide variety of pop mx was heard. RKI has planned a special show made for and by the listeners. The show will be aired either on X-Mas Day or Boxing Day Send a postcard with your Christmas greetings to R.K.I., P.O.Box 134, NL-3780 BC Voorthuizen, Netherlands.

☐ **RADIO MAXWELL** seems to be a new British station which was heard a number of times on 5805 kHz. The first time was on September 14th, signal was poor/fair on the continent. The station was heard again October 5th on 5830 kHz reading listeners' letters. That same day a weak signal was also heard on 6395. Reception suffers from low modulation. A possible explanation is the use of a HAM rig, 25 watts AM and 100 watts SSB. Such tx is not constructed to put out high-levelled mod! This winter Radio Maxwell will be active around 5805 and in the 3900-3950 range. The station announced 64 Brighton Road, Leicester, LE5 0HA.



England as its address. There's also an Email address which is:
> jsvendse@c2i.net <.

☐ **RADIO MARIO** is a Dutch 76 mb station which has been frequently noted on various frequencies ID-ing as Mario's Powerstation. Power is almost one kW. The station not only broadcasts during weekends but also on normal weekdays. Tues Sept. 16th a live phone-in was aired on 3900. Most of the station's output consists of QSOs with colleague Ops. The address is POBox 185 in 7470 AD Goor (the same's valid for Radio Roberto of course).

☐ Remember **RADIO MERLIN**? Paul Watt made a rig check on Monday Nov. 17th and the signal in London was S3 with good mod. Keep an eye on 6239kHz during the week. Add is (8).

☐ German based FM station **RADIO NIGHTRIDER** was heard with a test on SW Sun Sept. 21st. A poor signal was heard on 6250. Power is said to be 40W. The station can be contacted via the Wuppertal address (1)!

☐ **RADIO NORDLIGHT** recently announced a new Email address: > NordlichtR@aol.com<. The station can also be reached via P.O.Box 669, NL-7900 AR Hoogeveen in the Netherlands. There will be "Northlight-newsletters" twice a year. To get them just send an e-mail to the address above. Nordlight's last transmission was in Summer '95 and for the time being no further transmissions are planned.

☐ German **RADIO NORDSEE** was heard on 6211 Sun Oct. 12th with a very nice signal on the continent. Sun Oct. 26th Nordsee was on 6275 and Nov. 9th on 6260. Nov. 30th RNI was on 6210, the last part of the broadcast Pamela was also using 6210. Pamela on its turn got company from Kranker Radio Int. on 6210. Yes, it was a mess! Back to RNI: there are plans for 48 mb trms Dec. 26th and 28th and in addition daily 76 mb trms are planned X-Mas Day and New Year's Eve! It looks like RNI will be less active on SW in 1998. The station's new address is the Ytterby maildrop (10). No more letters should be sent to the Wuppertal address!

☐ **OZONE INTERNATIONAL** announced a new email address: > ozone_radio@compuserve.com <. Ozone tested on Sunday October 19th at 12.50 UTC on 5880.

☐ **RADIO PACMAN** is now using the DPRS address (5).

☐ SW veteran station **RADIO PAMELA** returned on air in September. Eversince the station is frequently heard on 6210 with fair signals. Address is P.O.Box 35, CH-4027 Romerswil in Switzerland.

☐ **RADIO PERFEKT** announced a new address which is P.O.Box 1732, D-48578 Gronau, Germany.

☐ **PIRATE CONTEST 1997/98**: Free Radio Info in cooperation with Radio Bubenfunk proudly announces its Pirate Radio Contest for 1997/98, being held from Dec. 20, 1997 00:00 UTC until January 4, 1998 at 2400 UTC. The aim of this contest is to hear as many Pirate Radio Stations as possible during the aforementioned period. The frequency range is 3900-7500 kHz. The contest fee is announced as 10 DEM and please note, that we don't count QSO-stations at all! The final dateline for your submissions to this contest is January 10, 1997. Every participant gets a certificate and takes part in a tombola of gifts.. Make sure the following data are included in your report: stationname, date, time of transmission in UTC, frequency of transmission, reception quality in SINPO code & details of reception (at least 15 min). Every logged FR-station counts 10 points, 50 extra bonus can be achieved by hearing a transmission of FRI and/or Radio Bubenfunk. More Informations can be obtained from Free Radio Info, Postfach 520112, D-44027 Dortmund or Radio Bubenfunk, Postfach 220342 in D-42373 Wuppertal (both in Germany).

☐ **RADIO PROJECT ONE INT.** is a new project in which the following stations take part: Radio Orchid, Start Club Radio, Radio Free Willy, Radio Driland and Freestyle. There shall be one broadcast every third month. Sun Dec. 7th the first broadcast was carried out via different txs taking over from each other. All frequencies were +/- 6251 kHz, signals were pretty good. The broadcast very first one. Address: c/o SRS (10). According to SCR's station manager Roy Clark, more stations are invited to join if they have an own transmitter. Radio Project One is not supposed to compete with Level 48, he pointed out.

☐ **RADIO RAVENS** made its debut broadcast Sun Nov. 2nd via the transmitter of Radio Pandora. Frequency was 6260. Almost 20 reports were received which is not too bad in terms of 1997. More relays via Pandora are planned. Address is (10).

☐ September we were surprised by an Email announcing the start of a brandnew SW station starting officially Saturday December

20th 1997 from the Republic of San Marino **RADIO SAN MARINO INTERNATIONAL** is the name of the new station and a first announced test took place Sun Oct. 19th on 11410 USB. The signal was well heard in most parts of Europe. Reports came from 14 countries including New Zealand, Australia and the United States. According to a source some 300W of power were used from a site near Florence. The latter was denied by the station claiming the Oct. 20th broadcast was indeed emanating from San Marino soil. Sun Nov. 9th RSMI was again testing, this time on 11410U and 7395L. Results were only fair this time. In the mean time we have the schedule for Saturday December 20th/Sunday December 21st 1997 (taken from the station's website):

☐ **Saturday December 20th:**

15.00-20.00 UTC on 7580/ 7600kHz LSB and/or on 11400 kHz possible test. 20-24 UTC on 7.580 (alt. 7.600) kHz LSB 20 & 22 UTC in It/English (1h), 21.00 & 23.00 in German (1h)

☐ **Sunday December 21st, 1997:**

00-04 UTC on 7.600 kHz LSB test at reduced power.

04.00-07.00 UTC on 7580 kHz LSB, 04.00 and 06.00 in Italian/ English (1h), 05.00 in German (1h)

07.00-10.00 UTC on 7440 kHz LSB, 07.00 and 09.00 in Italian/English (1h), 08.00 in German (1h).

07.00-10.00 UTC on 11410 kHz USB, 07.00 and 09.00 in German (1h), 08.00 in Italian/English (1h), 10.00-17.00 test at reduced power.

All correct reports will be verified with: QSL card with San Marino's picture, info about RSMI, sticker (when available). The reports have to be sent to these mail addresses:

RSMI c/o Play DX, Via Davanzati n.8, IT-20158 Milano, ITALY or RSMI, P.O.Box 41 11 31, DE-55068 Mainz, GERMANY Make sure you enclose 2 IRC or 2 US\$ (Europe) or 3 IRCs or 3 US\$ (outside Europe). It must be clear that RSMI is the station Chris Ise (Crazy Wave Radio) went to some months ago.!

On the internet the following homepage can be visited:

> <http://www.exactweb.com/RSMI> <.

☐ To bring you already in Christmas moods: **RADIO SANTA CLAUS** is the name of a new station logged December 1st on 3924 kHz. Unfortunately no address was mentioned. The station could be of Dutch origin.

☐ **RADIO SCANDINAVIAN LIGHTHOUSE** address is (1).

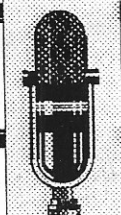
☐ **STAR CLUB RADIO** requests listeners to send messages on tape or letters to be aired on the station's Christmas broadcast in December. Important: all contributions should be sent to FRI, P.O.Box 520112, 44207 Dortmund, Germany instead of (1)!

☐ Dutch **SUPERCLAN RADIO** fulfilled its promise and started non-stop 24 hour broadcasts Saturday Sept. 27th on 6275 kHz. A low-powered 4W valve tx was in use powered by mains, each day a fresh 90 min. px was to be heard. Throughout the day this tape was continuously repeated. Reception was fair/poor and that's not a surprise knowing such low power is in use. During a number of weekends Superclan was totally overpowered by station's such as EMR and Marabu also using 6275. It was originally intended to use a transistorized X-tal controlled tx making use of pulse width modulation. Early November the tx broke down and ever since the station is silent. Superclan will be returning with much more power and trms will be reduced to Sun mornings. Trms emanate from the eastern part of the Netherlands, the area is called Elten. November the trms came to an end Address is Box 343, 6900 AH Zevenaar in the Netherlands. Email: > superclan@usa.net <.

☐ **RADIO Dr. TIM** returned on the 48 mb with a low-powered 8W tx Sun Nov. 23rd. The station was noted on 6270, signal was fair. Address is (1).

☐ **RADIO TITANIC INT.** was heard on 3920 and 6290 Sat Sept. 27th. It seems this was a specially produced 1997 show, possibly the only one aimed at the station's European audience this year. Address is (1). The station has opened an own homepage within the SRS service under > <http://www.ils.se/~jal/fr/titanic> <.

☐ **RADIO TONAIR** was testing on 9241 kHz/ 31 metres Sun Sept. 7th, 14th & 21st as well as Oct. 5th. The station was indeed received by listeners but not in Western Europe. On 31 metres skip is long and thus reports came from remote countries such as Finland and Spain. Sun Sept. 14th prior to the Tonair broadcast, sister-station radio Torenvalk was also heard on 9241. Nov. 23rd Tonair was testing on 6245 putting out a fine signal. Nov. 30th Tonair carried out a mod test on 6281 playing Level 48 jingles. The station promised to be back December 6th with 4-5 times



more power. The latter didn't happen however...we've to await further developments. Reports can be sent to P.O.Box 21, 7010 AA Gaanderen, Netherlands.

- 1 = P.O.Box 220342 / D-42373 WUPPERTAL / Germany
- 2 = 14 Stone Row/ COLERAINE/ Co. Londonderry/ BT52 11P/ Northern Ireland
- 4 = P.O.Box 130/ 92504 RUEIL Cedex/ France
- 5 = 12 Dorman Rd/ PRESTON/ Lancs PR2 6AS/ England
- 8 = Box 293/ Merlin/ Ontario N0P 1W0/ Canada
- 9 = 34B Drift Road/ Clanfield/ Waterlooville/ Hants PO8 0JJ/ England
- 10 = SRS/ Östra Porten 29/ 442 54 YTTIRBY/ Sweden

☐ The OP of **RADIO TORENVALK** decided to call it a day Sun October 12th. The main reason for quitting seems to be the lack of response. RTI was 20 years active in the Free Radio world. But this is not the end of the soap... Saturday November 15th in the afternoon Radio Torenvalk was heard on 6275 using the name Radio Obelix. In the mean time it's clear the station has returned (has the station been really off...?). Several 76 mb trms were noted with fine signals. For instance Dec. 1st on 3933 kHz QSOing with Rsdio-Tonair. Station operator Hans mentioned he was using just 6 watts of power and asked for reception reports to be sent to the Zeddarn address. Also on Saturday, December 6th, Torenvalk reappeared on 76 metres. Hans said he received a lot of response from listeners asking him to continue with Torenvalk. OP Hans carries on... P.O.Box 94, 7038 ZH Zeddarn in the Netherlands is the address to write to. Make sure you support RTI! (Thanks to Werner Schauerermann)

☐ **TRANSATLANTIC RADIO** has a new email address: > transatlantic@wxs.nl <. The Dutch station will be on air at Xmas 1997 with a transmission on 48 mb. TAR also has a homepage: > http://home.wxs.nl/~trans/<.

☐ Those of you who try to catch **USA STATIONS** Saturday nights must be aware that some of the stations are currently active on frequencies around 6925 avoiding the rather overcrowded 6955 frequency.

☐ **THE VOICE OF THE NETHERLANDS** tested on 6265 Sun Nov. 16th. Non-stop music was being played. 6265 once was the frequency where the station started its SW operation using the name "de Blonde Piraat" (Blond Pirate). Signal on the 16th was very good. Address is P.O.Box 669, 7900 AM Hoozeveen in the Netherlands. You can reach the VOTN also by Email using RECH's (new) Email address (see under RECH!). There's a good chance that the OPs of the VOTN and RECH will again join forces on the 31st of December carrying out their mutual traditional New Year's Eve broadcast on 48 metres.

☐ **RADIO WAVES INTERNATIONAL** from France was back on SW October 11th/12th. Broadcasting times were Saturday 20.00-24.00 UTC, Sunday 02.00-05.00 and 06.00-12.00 UTC on 7484 & 11401 kHz with 40 watts. Also Sun Nov. 2nd and 30th RWI was active on 11401. RWI's website has been updated recently. Take a look at:

>http://www.imagnet.fr/~rwaves/index.htm<.

Address is BP 130, 92504, RUEIL Cedex in France.. Email: > rwaves@imagnet.fr <.

☐ Scottish **WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO** was heard testing on 6230 & 6250 Oct. 5th playing Caroline extracts. In recent months WMR wasn't heard that much on the SW bands. Address is (2).

☐ **RADIO WEST** is a new project from Belgium whose first show was aired by *Radio Mario/Roberto* Oct. 4th on 3910 kHz. The programme consisted of rock music and IDs in several languages. Address: P.O.Box 16, 7700 Mouscron, Belgium. The station should be on the air just a few times a year. Within one week almost 20 letters were received, mostly from Germany.

November should have seen yet another new Flemish station on SW. Name is X-TREME and monthly broadcasts are planned using the Swedish Ytterby address. So far nothing was heard ...

☐ UK-based **RADIO ZODIAC** was heard testing to the USA in the early hours of Sun Sept. 21st. Frequency was 6290. We are not sure whether the test was successful. Sept. 7th saw a 6400 test during nighttime. Address is (1).

☐ Station **ZWARTE PANTHER** announced a new address of Postbus 1104, 8001 BC Zwolle, Netherlands. This box has been used so far by Radio Blue Star.

OFFSHORE RADIO

☐ PIRATE SHIP FOR SALE...

"Anyone interested in a floating pirate radiostation ?? I highly doubt it. But in any case: there's a pirate ship for sale. It's the King David, the former Lightship #3 from Trinity House in the UK. The ship is currently moored off the coast of Tel Aviv. The King David does *not* have a motor, but it does have a very good anchoring system and can stay on the high seas for many years to come. The ship is in excellent state. On board are a 40 metres high antenna mast, a 20 KW Telefunken AM transmitters, a 10 KW Siemens FM transmitter and a 3 KW Rhode and Schwarz transmitter, plus necessary generators and studio equipment (mainly a couple of minidisc players and mixers). The organisation running Channel 2000 got bankrupt. They are a million dollars in debt. It was responsible for fitting this ship out while the ship was in Portsmouth in the UK in 1995. The owners contacted me again a few days ago, asking me whether I would know anyone who'd be interested in the whole ship and/or the equipment on board. The current owners would accept any serious offer. Serious parties: please contact me, and I'll bring you in touch with the owners of this pirate radio vessel that is currently off the coast of Israel."

(Herbert Visser)

☐ RADIO CAROLINE NEWS

Ross Revenge

As far as we know the Ross Revenge is still anchored off the Isle of Sheppey. By the end of October the Yeoman Rose, the ship which was used for the Radio London revival last Summer, was moored in the vicinity of the Ross. Over the X-Mas Holidays Radio Caroline won't be active with a RSL.

Caroline in Harlingen

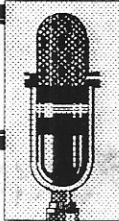
Fri October 17th Radio Caroline was broadcasting on cable and a terrestrial FM frequency from Dutch soil. The pxs took place via a local radio station-RSH- in Harlingen (Friesland- Northern part of the country) and were hosted by Johnny Reece, Andy Brooks, Gil Legine en Richard Bismarck. The 4 jocks brought a visit to the former Veronica ship Norderney in Leeuwarden and presented a complete evening/night of typical Caroline programming (classic/album rock. Trms were certainly successful! Following their visit to Harlingen, the Caroline jocks travelled to Calais to do yet another stunt on Radio Six.

Caroline on TV

28 years after Radio Caroline founder Ronan O'Rahilly proposed beaming pirate TV to the UK from a pair of planes flying just outside UK airspace, the station is finally set to broadcast from the skies, though on a more modest scale, and from a somewhat higher altitude. The Satellite Festival, which is to air via the GE-1E beam of the recently launched Sirius2 satellite, will again have a Radio on TV segment. The 1998 Satellite Festival is proud to announce that in January the sounds of Radio Caroline will return to Europe again. Satellite Festival will again be airing its unique mix of technology, media and infotainment in January 1998. As always Satellite Festival will air its very popular radio in vision programme. In January 1998 there will be a special programme featuring Radio Caroline. Eric Wiltsher, Executive co-producer of The Festival, said, "For many years Radio Caroline were pioneers in broadcasting over Europe. Their philosophy of bringing innovative programming to Europe is very much in keeping with the remit of the Satellite Festival. This is why we are very proud that the station will return to air during our innovative programming service in January along side so many other new programme ideas" (Newstide)

Peter Moore: 10 Years Station-Manager

Meanwhile station-manager Peter Moore is 10 years in charge of the legendary radio station. Peter Moore took over from Andy Johnson and started at a point when two stations were broadcasting from the radio vessel Ross Revenge: Radio Caroline on 558 and Dutch language station Radio Monique on 819. Plans were to start a religious SW service and tests had just begun. Only a few days after Peter Moore had started his work, the giant Caroline antenna tower collapsed in a severe north-easterly gale in the night of Nov. 24th/25th November 1987. In fact this was the beginning of the end for Caroline on sea. Although "558" returned



soon on low power, it took more than half a year for the Dutch to return. The SW service started Spring 1988.

Caroline on SW

Caroline's plans to start SW trms from Ireland have to be put on ice. Caroline hoped to start early 1998 but it seems the transmitter site is not suitable for carrying out SW trms. That means that a new site has to be looked for which will certainly take a few extra months.... Typically Caroline...Isn't it strange that at the "last moment" it is discovered the site is not suitable??

RADIO VESSEL ELECTRA

For quite some months we haven't heard from the Electra project. The ship has been fitted out in Boston and is almost ready to sail to sea according to a report in Glenn Hauser's "World of Radio". It is expected the tiny little ship will be heading for the Caribbean, the exact location isn't known by now. The output will consist of religious and musical pxs, both aired via a SW tx. Two persons are in charge of the project: Al Weiner and Scott Becker. According to these two men the ocean-going tugboat is capable of sailing to the Caribbean. The trip from the US east coast to the Caribbean will take about two weeks. Interesting is that not Lightwave Mission Broadcasting but Frontline Int. is mentioned as funder of the project. This could imply that Yesterday USA Network pxs won't be aired from the MV Electra. Transmitting power is estimated at 10 KW, the signal is fed into an Inverted V aerial. The need to hire a new pilot has caused some delay, for the rest the ship is ready to go. According to reports Weiner won't be on the ship when it leaves the US heading for the Caribbean. His work was to install the equipment and that part of the job has been completed. Email: > mvelectra@aol.com <.

RADIO LONDON RSL IN DECEMBER

Following the great success last Summer, East Anglian Productions have announced that the second Radio London RSL will come on the air on Wednesday 17th December. The station will broadcast for 28 days on 1503KHz AM. Just like in July/August, the station will be attempting to recreate the sound of the sixties pirate Radio London. Broadcasts will emanate from a ship called the Ocean Defender. Last Summer broadcasts were coming from the MV Yeoman Rose which was moored off Frinton-on-Sea. The current London ship will be based in London's Docklands, and the signal is expected to cover most of the area within the M25.

ARUTZ 7 BEING JAMMED

Voice of Israel Radio's Reshet Gimmel station is purposely causing disturbances to the Arutz-7 broadcasting signal. Reshet Gimmel transmitters have broadcast on frequency 105 FM over the past few days, very close to Arutz-7's 105.2 FM. The disturbance is chiefly felt in the Gush Dan - Tel Aviv area. Technical supervisory staff at the Tel Aviv office of Voice of Israel admitted to our correspondent that the new transmissions were intentionally done to disrupt those of Arutz-7. It appears that this is related to the new Reshet Gimmel policy to cease broadcasting foreign-language music and to sound only Israeli music. Reshet Gimmel sees Arutz-7, which has broadcast only-Hebrew music since its inception nine years ago, as a direct competitor." (Mike Brand)

JOHAN MAASBACH DIES

At the age of 78 Johan Maasbach died in his sleep on Thursday. Maasbach founded his World Mission in 1949 in Gouda. After troublesome years better times came in the sixties when he started to build his World Imperium with several churches in Holland, Iceland, USA, India, Indonesia and Western Africa. He financed the building of these churches by asking for donation from his listeners as well as selling his magazine New Light at the end of the daily church. Also Maasbach was known for his international radioprogrammes which were transmitted on several radiostations worldwide, including the offshorestations Radio Northsea International and Radio Caroline. His sons will go on with his Mission Work. Txs to Hans Knot for this report.

GLR: "PIRATES OF THE AIRWAVES"

Fans of sixties offshore radio are in for a treat this Boxing Day when GLR 94.9, the BBC station for London, relives the first era of watery wireless. "Pirates Of The Airwaves" contains reminiscences from many former pirate DJ's, including Dave Cash and Duncan Johnson (from Radio London), Tom Lodge and Johnnie Walker (Radio Caroline) and Alan Clark (Radio City) and is packed with archive airchecks. Narrated by GLR Breakfast Show presenter Gideon Coe, "Pirates Of The Airwaves" can be heard on 26th December 1997 at 5pm.

PIRATE TV FROM A SHIP?

The Swedish Daily News reported about a new offshore project willing to beam a TV signal to Finland and Estonia. The ship should be anchored in the Gulf of Finland and the start of the station would be next Spring. Station TV Zoom is name of the company. A Monaco-based company owns 90% of the shares.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

ALLEN WEINER KEEPS GOING!!

Up in Maine, Al Weiner wants to build a new shortwave station. The veteran New England broadcaster (both licensed and unlicensed) has applied to the FCC to build a shortwave transmitter in Monticello. Weiner wants to put his station on Britton Road in Monticello, a stone's throw from the Canadian border and also the site of WREM (710), a station he owned back when it was WOZW. It will be interesting to see how the FCC handles Weiner, given his long history of unlicensed operation (including one pirate that actually used the WOZW transmitter site). More to come on this one as we find out more about Weiner's plans.

EVANS BUYS VIRGIN RADIO

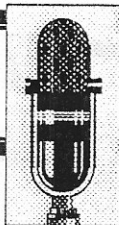
Chris Evans has bought Virgin Radio for 80 million pounds! The news was announced by Virgin Chairman Richard Branson on Monday December 8th. Who said that Evans' offer had beaten off competition from the Capital Radio Group. A new company, Ginger Media Group will be created as Evans merges his production company with Virgin Radio. The deal secures the future of Virgin as an independent rival to the major UK radio groups. Chris Evans joined Virgin, starting on Mon Oct. 13th hosting the Breakfast Show. He signed an initial 10 week contract. Chris Evans' return on the national airwaves on Virgin Radio brought a legion of new listeners to the station. Exactly on the same day Evans started on Virgin, his former employer BBC Radio 1 launched its own new breakfast programme, featuring Kevin Greening & Zoe Ball. Chris Evans is to donate the two hundred thousand pound fee he will earn for presenting the Virgin Radio breakfast show to the Diana Memorial Fund. Announcing the deal, Richard Branson said that the station would be "in safe hands" (Newstide)

RADIO IRELAND: REVAMP!

Radio Ireland, the independent national station in the Republic of Ireland, is to be transformed into a very different station, aimed at a different audience, on the 5th of January. Even the name Radio Ireland will vanish - the new name is being kept a tightly guarded secret for now, though the Irish Times newspaper suggests "Today FM" as the new identity. Only a few programmes will survive the drastic changes planned for the new year. The new station will ditch Radio Ireland's format of music and speech aimed at the over 35 age group and will instead concentrate on younger people currently listening to RTE 2FM and the big commercial stations like FM104 (> <http://www.fm104.ie> <) and 98FM in Dublin. A marketing manager has been hired, and a "massive" campaign is planned for the New year to tie in with the relaunch. (Newstide)

EKR: AOR ROCK SERVICE FROM SATELLITE

Monday October 20th European Klassik Rock- EKR- launched its Pan-European rock service on satellite. EKR says to be different from other stations by using a very extensive playlist. Many well-known radio voices are to be heard on the station. The line-up includes the Emperor Rosko presenting a Saturday afternoon programme exclusively for EKR. The px goes out between 16.00-19.00 CET. The EKR evening programming line-up includes former Radio One and Capital man Dave Cash. EKR Managing Director, Peter Leutner commented "We are delighted to welcome both Rosko and Dave Cash to our team. Their appointment gives an indication of the quality of programming which EKR provides, since we have launched on the 20th October." EKR have also made a number of other presenter appointments. These include Alton Andrews (who was with Caroline & Radio Luxembourg in the 1980's), Martin Blunt (formerly with Radio Mercury) and Nick Simmons (formerly with County Sound and Radio Victory). The position of Programme Controller has been filled by Peter Quinn. Peter has over 20 years experience in radio both in the UK and in mainland Europe. Peter's career started in 1975 at Radio Trent. Since then he has worked for Radio Tees, Beacon Radio, Southern FM, Invicta FM and several other UK stations. Additionally, he also gained



European experience with Radio Nova in Italy, Island Sound in Malta and the pan-European service of Radio Caroline. Peter is currently Programme Controller at RTL Country 1035 AM in London. The full EKR programme line-up includes a number of other "seasoned radio professionals" such as Keith Lewis (remember him from Radio Nova & the Caroline Easter satellite trms back in 1991) and Randell Lee Rose who used to work for Virgin and Capital and...caroline in the mid 80s (using the name Chuck Reynolds). EKR can be heard on Channel 35 of the Astra Satellite (on the audio sub-carriers of Challenge TV). *European Klassik Rock* is broadcasting from 6am until 10pm daily.. From 10pm until 6am, EKR's frequencies are taken over by "Night Tracks" an adult contemporary service built around core artists. Night Tracks, the overnight sustaining service has been overrun by enquiries from UK ILR stations and English speaking services on the continent, according to it's Maidstone-based management. In the mean time Newside are in the process of designing and building a completely new Internet website for EKR. Once online it will include a daily up-date of the EKR Listeners Club and live Real Audio streaming of EKR's European Klassik Rock and Night Tracks services. EKR have also announced a North London based RSL to operate for 28 days from the 4th of January. Further details can be found at the EKR site which is:

> <http://www.east-kent-radio.demon.co.uk> <

EKR E-mail :> EKR@east-kent-radio.demon.co.uk <.

MADE IN HOLLAND

September:

Plans of the Dutch Telecom to build four giant radio masts near the Kootwijk community are still causing turbulence. Inhabitants have founded a protestgroup, called Platform Kootwijk. This group is convinced the 1000 feet masts will cause 'visual pollution'. Moreover radiation will have effects on health in a wider area. However, there seem to be no legal opportunities anymore to stop *Delta 171*, the pan-European English languaged medium wave station. Even local magistrates confirm only massive protests from the public can create a slight chance of stopping the project.

October:

One of the more popular Veronica jocks, *Edwin Evers*, will be leaving the station at the end of the year. He will be *joining Radio 3*, to present the breakfast show. The contract of the two current presenters of this slot has been ended. The public station is trying to compete more fiercely with the commercial stations. Edwin Evers is supposed to be more able to succeed in this mission. His aim is to attract a younger audience.

Sky Radio starts broadcasting the Amsterdam stockmarket index every hour. It's the first Dutch station to do this. Not very surprisingly, taking into consideration that Sky is the Dutch radio station on pole position in the Business to Business market.

The city of *The Hague* has become the *battleground* of some radio stations. The FM frequency 97.9 has become available. This frequency is intended to be assigned to one of the commercial stations. However, hering of these plans the public regional statio Radio West claims the frequency. The station is convinced it would be fair to get the outlet to improve reception in the area of the Governmental city. Now another party has come to the scene. Some pirate stations, joined together under the name NOVA, already asked for a frequency in 1996. This application had been withdrawn. As a result of the Radio West claim NOVA has renewed its applicaton. The 'station' is convinced giving the frequency to Radio West is a waste, because reception of the regional station is good enough in the city. Moreover NOVA states it will serve a better and broader audience.

November:

The following part of Made in Holland comes from *P.A. Rusling*: In a decree issued in Rotterdam High Court the Decision by Minister Jorritsma (PTT MINISTER) to *award FM frequencies* to existing broadcasters was pronounced illegal. She must reconsider the matter immediately and cannot exclude stations not already broadcasting. The President of the High Court has said all applicants must have fair consideration, no matter whether they were broadcasting at any date and no matter if they already did have high audience penetration. This means existing market-leading stations (eg Sky, Veronica, Classic FM) are on the same level as new applicants and the allocation of FM frequencies must now be done again. The President (Judge) decreed that "the whole frequency plan is now open" and insisted that in order to be fair it must fully consider the representations of all parties, not just the existing broadcasters who already have ether frequencies. The President of the Court has insisted that the new deliberations must be free from all bias; he was referring to the Ministers previous decision which only considered existing radio stations in the VCR and did not give much thought to new stations (such as Virgin Nederland).

Following the decision of the High Court in Rotterdam, a small commission of senior staff from the HDTP, a division of the PTT responsible for broadcasting, was quickly assembled by Minister Jorritsma. The three man commission held an open meeting for broadcasters on the 5th of November, at the Centraal Station Business Centre in the Hague. They began the proceedings by announcing that they propose to gather information about existing stations and potential broadcasters and also what the demand might be over the next two years or so before issuing new licences. They listened to representations from most of the interested parties all day. As a result of the meeting it's been announced: 1. The 24 already offered and the 12 'newly discovered' FM frequencies will be reconsidered and shared out again. 2. All broadcasters are qualified to apply, (not just those who are members of the VCR) 3 Interested parties must send full details of what they propose to the commission by 12th November. The details required include proposed target audiences, amount of investment and illustration of the level of professionalism. Radio 538, Radio 10 Gold, Radio Noordzee, Jazz Radio and Hit Radio Veronica have signed contracts with a new company, Broadcast Partners. This company will transmit the signals of these stations. Until now the Nozema has been the only supplier of transmitters in Holland. Broadcast Partners intends to breach this monopoly. A very remarkable aspect is the fact BP has asked Nozema to use their facilities. This would be cheaper than building their own transmitting sites. Moreover the Nozema transmitters are situated at very favourable spots. However, Nozema initially refuses to offer their sites to BP. As a result BP threatens to go to court to force Nozema to co-operate. This action convinces Nozema to start talks with BP.

December:

The public broadcasters undertake every possible action to counter-attack the commercial stations. As part of an overall restyling of the stations *Radio 3* will *split up* into two stations in about two years time. One station will be like the current Radio 3, competing with stations like Veronica and Radio 538. The second station will play alternative music, something like Kink FM. The only public station that will stay relatively unchanged is Radio 2. This station, aiming at a more older audience tahn R3, becomes more popular every day. R3 has lost a lot of listeners to this station, housing some deejays from the heydays of the public popstation, like Ferry Maat. □

FRS SALES PRODUCTIONS TAPE OFFERS CHRISTMAS 1997

It's now or never... **RADIO NORTHSEA INT.** Studio-tapes from 1974. Unbelievable audio quality...all was recorded aboard the *Mebo II*...the final hour August 31st in studio-quality Pxs from *Ted Bouwens*...*Marc van Amstel*...*Ferry Maat*...*Gerard Smit* plus: almost an hour of studio-jingles & promos!! A total of 7 hours RNI in the best quality you can imagine for only DM 55.00/ £ 17.50 . ☐ **New !! RADIO VERONICA-** the studio tapes featuring a wide variety of *Veronica* shows in studio-quality between 1965 and 1977. Three hours *Radio Veronica* for DM 25.00/ £ 7.95 . For more X-Mas offers send a DM 1.00 stamp/ 1IRC to our mailing address!!

Payments are accepted in cash, by *Eurocheque* or by *I.M.O.* No other foreign cheques please! Eurocheques must be written out in either Dutch guilders or German Marks. Do not forget your bank number and signature, otherwise we cannot exchange your cheque. You may send Dutch, English, German, Belgian, USA or French banknotes. Make sure it's the equivalent of the prices listed above. All prices include postage & packing. Address: P.O.Box 2727, 6049 ZG Herten, the Netherlands. *FRS Sales Productions, a name to remember...*